

Tertiary times in Western Europe. This name was originated by Dumont for the white sands, without fossils, which appear in the Bolderberg, near Hassalt. We can observe these sands, in places, on the banks of the Rhine, where they contain fossils, and are classed as Upper Oligocene. The Miocene of Belgium is the *Crag noir d'Anvers*, part of the *Diéstien* of Dumont, the *Anversien* of Cogels and Van Ertborn.

Lately, M. E. Van den Broeck has endeavoured to demonstrate on the evidence of fossils found in the upper beds of the *Boldérien* at Waenrode, that the *Boldérien* and *Anversien* are *synonymous*, and, consequently, that the term *Anversien*, being newer, must be cancelled. This view, it appears, was adopted by M. Dollfus; but I still maintain that this correlation is by no means well founded, and agree with Cogels and others that our ancient *Boldérien* is Oligocene.

UNIVERSITÉ DE LIÈGE;
October 29th, 1895.

C. DEWALQUE.

OBITUARY.

DR. ERNST VON REBEUR-PASCHWITZ.

BORN AUGUST 9TH, 1861.

DIED OCTOBER 1ST, 1895.

DR. ERNST VON REBEUR-PASCHWITZ was born on August 9th, 1861, at Frankfurt a. Oden. In consequence of his father's movements as a Government officer, Von Rebeur's school was often changed, but wherever he went his knowledge of mathematics made him in these studies *facile princeps*. He obtained his doctorate at Berlin, where he became an assistant at the Observatory. At Karlsruhe, where he was 'Erster Assistant,' he commenced, in 1884, to interest himself in Zöllner's pendulum. It was about this time that his health first caused anxiety to his friends. Although he visited Switzerland, Italy, Teneriffe, and other places, returning to his home in apparently good health, it was soon recognized that his recoveries were only temporary. At Halle, where he was Privat Docent, the condition of his throat and chest precluded him from giving lectures. From 1891 until his death, on October 1st, 1895, he was more or less confined to a bed or sofa, often suffering excruciating pain, and never left his room excepting during the summer.

It was during this period of physical incapacity that Von Rebeur produced his most remarkable work, and became the pioneer of a new seismology. Commencing with the endeavour to measure lunar gravitation, he discovered the diurnal wave, that earthquakes could be recorded at stations distant more than a quarter of the earth's circumference from their origin, came in contact with the ubiquitous tremors, and observed many other phenomena connected with the movements of our so-called *terra firma*. These discoveries attracted the attention of other observers, and horizontal pendulums were established at several of the more important observatories in Germany and Russia.

Von Rebeur's last work was an endeavour to obtain co-operation for the observation of these instruments throughout the world, a scheme which, although he has not lived to realize it, will, in all probability, be accomplished in the near future. His ability and energy are testified by the works he leaves behind, and his modesty and kindly nature are spoken of by all who knew him. J. M.

CAPTAIN CHARLES TYLER, F.L.S., F.G.S., whose death on the 2nd November last, in his 70th year, we deeply regret to record, was for very many years an active member of the Council of the Palæontographical Society, and keenly interested in all microscopical research. He also worked assiduously at the Protozoa with the late Dr. Bowerbank, F.R.S.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A MOST useful "Bibliography of Midland Glaciology" has been contributed by Mr. W. J. Harrison to the Proceedings of the Birmingham Natural History and Philosophical Society (vol. ix, 1895). His record includes the titles of more than one hundred and fifty papers, dating from the year 1811 up to the present time, and written specially on the Drift deposits or glacial phenomena of the Midland counties; and he has added titles of over a hundred other books and papers which have a more general bearing on the subject. Nor has he confined his record to titles, for notes are given on the contents of nearly every article. He remarks that singularly little attention was paid to the Midland Drift by the officers of the Geological Survey when they mapped the region in 1855-60. What is now wanted is a detailed survey of the various accumulations of Boulder-clay, Sand, and Gravel.

"THE Onyx Marbles: their origin, composition, and uses, both ancient and modern," is the title of a Memoir by Mr. George P. Merrill (1895. Reprinted from the Report of the United States National Museum). The term onyx marble, as is well known, is applied to varieties of travertine or stalagmite, which exhibit banding and translucency that are often as pronounced as in the true onyx. Used in ancient times for various ornamental purposes, and known as "Oriental alabaster," the marble has been obtained in Persia, Egypt, Algeria, Italy, Mexico, California, Arizona, and other regions; and it is largely used for interior decoration at the present day. Mr. Merrill enters fully into the characters of the several onyx marbles, and to their method of formation by springs in the open and in caverns. His work is illustrated by 18 plates.

ERRATUM.—In Dr. Gerhard Holm's article, November Number, line 21 from top of page 482: after the word "canal," insert a full stop (.); then for "which," read *What*; and in line 22, for "consisting" read *consists*.